IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA NORTHERN DIVISION

WILLIE LEE POOLE,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:05-CV-774
AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL GROUP, INC.; et al.,)))
Defendants.)

SUPPLEMENT TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO CONDUCT REMAND-RELATED **DISCOVERY**

COME NOW American General Financial Services of Alabama, Inc. ("American General") (improperly designated as American General Finance Inc. in the complaint), as successor to American General Finance, Inc., Merit Life Insurance Company, and Yosemite Insurance Company (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants"), by and through their undersigned counsel, appearing specially so as to preserve any and all defenses available under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil procedure, and specifically preserving the right to seek arbitration pursuant to 9 U.S.C. § 1, et seq., and hereby provide the following supplement to Defendants' motion to conduct remand-related discovery.

Plaintiff commenced the present action on July 1, 2005 by filing a complaint in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama. On or about August 11, 2005, Defendants removed the present action to this Court on diversity jurisdiction grounds under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a). On or about August 29, 2005, Plaintiff filed a Motion to Remand, arguing against the existence of diversity jurisdiction. On or about September 9, 2005, Defendants filed a Motion for an Extension of Time to Respond to Plaintiffs' Motion to Remand for the Purpose of Conducting Remand-Related Discovery ("Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery"). On or about September 12, 2005, the Court entered an Order granting Defendants' Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery. On or about September 16, 2005, Plaintiff filed a Motion to Alter, Amend or Vacate the Court's Order Granting Defendants' Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery. On or about September 30, 2005, Defendants filed a Response to Plaintiff's Motion to Alter, Amend or Vacate the Court's Order Granting Defendants' Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery. Defendant's Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery remains pending before this Court.

Significantly, on January 25, 2006, in other matters brought by Plaintiff's counsel against these Defendants, Gloria Garret v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2639-Ma/P; Elmo Thomas v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2651-Ma/P; and Roosevelt Walton v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2652-D/P, the Honorable Magistrate Judge Tu M. Pham of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee granted Defendants' motion to compel responses to remand-related discovery. (A copy of Magistrate Judge Pham's order is attached hereto as Exhibit "A").

Similarly, on January 13, 2006, in other matters brought by Plaintiff's counsel against these Defendants, Irby v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2634; Robertson v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2635; Mason v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2636; Sims v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2637; Trezevant v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2650; Upshaw v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2653; Marshall v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2655; Armstrong v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No.

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05-2700; and Oliver v. American International Group, Inc., et al., Civil Action No. 05-2701, the

Honorable Judge Diane K. Vevesco of the United States District Court for the Western District

of Tennessee granted Defendants' motion to compel responses to remand-related discovery. (A

sample copy of the electronic filing notifying the parties of Judge Vevesco's order is attached

hereto as Exhibit "B").

Defendants respectfully request that this Court consider the rulings of Judge Pham and

Judge Vevesco as persuasive authority and enter a similar order permitting them to conduct the

necessary remand-related discovery in the present action.

WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request that this Honorable Court grant

Defendants' Motion to Conduct Remand-Related Discovery.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Matthew T. Mitchell_

Robert H. Rutherford (RUT002)

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David A. Elliott (ELL027)

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on <u>February 7, 2006</u>, I electronically filed the foregoing Supplement to Defendants' Motion for an Extension of Time to Respond to Plaintiffs' Motion to Remand for the Purpose of Conducting Remand-Related Discovery with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which sent notification of such filing to the following: Jere L. Beasley, Thomas J. Methvin, C. Lance Gould, Thomas Julian Butler, David A. Elliott, Robert H. Rutherford, Jeffrey M. Grantham, and John Thomas Aquina Malatesta.

s/ Matthew T. Mitchell
OF COUNSEL

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